

PHYSICAL EDUCATION FOR HEALTH

Radio Program  
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(Dr. V. W. Lapp - Mr. L. R. Perry - Mrs. Margaret Dart)

ARCHERY

- Dr. Lapp      Although Archery is as old as civilization, it has only recently been added to the curriculum of the University of Kansas. This fall we organized two classes in elementary archery, and it proved to be popular enough so that two classes in elementary archery and one of advanced technique have been included in the physical education program for the second semester. In the public schools of Lawrence the girls have been shooting for at least a year. This fall I had a girl in my University class who had taken archery in the senior high school. Mrs. Dart, can you tell us how long archery has been taught in Lawrence?
- Mrs. Dart     We've been teaching archery in the senior high school for three years. The first year we had only three bows and a few dozen arrows. With 35 students in a class, about all we accomplished was the technical phase of shooting, such as stringing and unstringing the bow, standing position, complete draw and the release. The second year, with more equipment, each girl was able to shoot 24 arrows during a class period, and we kept accumulative score cards with scores from three different distances. We entered three students in a meet with Kansas City, Kansas the following year, and have used some of the better archers to demonstrate shooting between halves at the basketball games. Now intramural archery is held for advanced students after school hours. I understand, Mr. Perry, there was an archery club at junior high school.
- Mr. Perry     Yes, there was an archery club at junior high school about four years ago, sponsored by Mr. Edwin Burgess, and it was my privilege to help Mr. Burgess two years. In the club, which was purely a voluntary organization, about 20-25 boys reported. They made or bought their own bows and arrows and learned some of the fundamentals of archery. Probably much of the shooting would not have been classified as skillful, but the enjoyment of the shooters more than made up for that. Of course, there were all kinds of bows, ranging from toy archery sets to 30-50 pound good lemonwood bows. Although this activity was carried on after school hours, considerable skill was developed by some of these young shooters. Since the start of our second semester, in talking to my classes in senior high, I have asked the boys how they would like to shoot a bow and arrow as a class activity. A very great desire in every class has been evident. I intend to use archery in my spring program, and with some new equipment added to Mrs. Dart's present supply, and by shooting on alternate days with the girl's department, we should be able to do some worthwhile shooting. Doc, didn't I hear you say you had a girl in your archery class? I thought you were in the men's physical education department?
- Dr. Lapp      Yes, Dad, you heard correctly. Our department is somewhat unique in that we have several co-educational activity classes. Badminton, which is also new to our curriculum, is open to both boys and girls. Our tap and social dancing classes are co-educational. This is also true of fencing, and archery is no exception. About 75% of our enrollment in the first two archery classes were girls. Dad, you mentioned boys in your junior high school group having bows weighing 30 to 50 pounds. It would seem to me that a 50 pound bow would be rather heavy for these small boys to carry around.